

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 1, 2 and 6-22.

Claims 3, 4 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite . By the current amendment, Applicants cancel claims 3 and 23, and amend claim 4 to deleted reference to the ND filter, so as to advance the application to issue. In this regard, Applicants note that the present amendment is being submitted to respond to a procedural rejection, and not a substantive prior art rejection.

In view of the present amendment, Applicants submit that claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-22 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate such, and pass the application to issue.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extension of time required to place this application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Norio SATO et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein", written over a horizontal line.

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

Steven Wegman
Reg. No. 31,438

Steven Wegman
Reg. No. 31,438